

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named	
Inventor	: Andrew A. Goldfine
Appln. No.	: 09/787,497
Filed	: March 16, 2001
Title	: IMPACT ABSORBING COMPOSITE
Docket No.	: A351.12-0002

## **EXHIBIT B**

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, pp. 728-729 (Merriam-Webster, 10<sup>th</sup> ed.)

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absorption of an estate, a contract, or an interest in another, of a minor offense in a greater, or of an obligation into a judgment. 2 a : the act or process of merging b : absorption by a corporation of one or more others; also : any of various methods of combining two or more organizations (as business concerns)

**me-rid-i-an** \mə-'ri-dē-ən\ n [ME, fr. MF *meridien*, fr. *meridien* of noon; fr. L *meridianus*, fr. *meridies* noon, south, irreg. fr. *medius* mid + *dies* day — more at MID, DEITY] (14c) 1 archaic : the hour of noon : MIDDAY 2 : a great circle of the celestial sphere passing through its poles and the zenith of a given place 3 : a high point 4, a (1) : a great circle on the surface of the earth passing through the poles (2) : the half of such a circle included between the poles; b : representation of such a circle or half circle numbered for longitude on a map or globe — see LONGITUDE illustration — *meridian adj.*

**me-rid-i-on-al** \mə-'ri-dē-ə-nəl\ adj [ME, fr. MF *meridional*, fr. LL *meridionalis*, fr. L *meridies*] (14c) 1 : of, relating to, or situated in the south : SOUTHERN 2 : of, relating to, or characteristic of people living in the south esp. of France 3 : of, relating to, or situated on or along a meridian — *me-rid-i-on-al-ly* \-nəl-ē\ adv

**meridional** n (1591) : a native or inhabitant of southern Europe and esp. southern France

**me-ringue** \mə-'ring\ n [F] (1706) 1 : a dessert topping baked from a mixture of stiffly beaten egg whites and sugar 2 : a shell made of meringue and filled with fruit or ice cream

**me-ri-no** \mə-'rē-(ñō)\ n, pl -nos [Sp.] (1810) 1 : any of a breed of fine-wooled white sheep originating in Spain and producing a heavy fleece of exceptional quality 2 : a soft wool or wool and cotton clothing fabric resembling cashmere 3 : a fine wool and cotton yarn used for hosiery and knitwear — *merino adj.*

**merism** n [comb form] [ISV, fr. Gk. *meros* part — more at MERIT] : possession of (such) an arrangement of or relation among constituent chemical units (tautomerism)

**mer-i-stem** \mər-ē-stēm\ n [Gk. *meristos* divided (fr. *merizein* to divide, fr. *meros*) + E -em (as in system)] (1874) : a formative plant tissue usu. made up of small cells capable of dividing indefinitely and giving rise to similar cells or to cells that differentiate to produce the definitive tissues and organs — *mer-i-ste-mat-ic* \mər-ē-stē-mā-tik\ adj — *mer-i-ste-mat-i-cal-ly* \-tē-kāl-ē\ adv

**mer-i-stic** \mər-ē-stik\ adj [Gk. *meristos*] (1894) 1 : SEGMENTAL 2 : involving modification in number or in geometrical relation of body parts (as variation in flower petals) — *mer-is-ti-cally* \-tē-kāl-ē\ adv

**mer-it** \mər-ət\ n [ME, fr. MF *merite*, fr. L *meritum*, fr. neut. of *meritus*, pp. of *merere* to deserve, earn; akin to Gk. *meirhesthai* to receive as one's portion, *meros* part] (14c) 1 : obs : reward or punishment due b : the qualities or actions that constitute the basis of one's deserts c : a praiseworthy quality — *VIRTUE* d : character or conduct deserving reward, honor, or esteem; also : ACHIEVEMENT 2 : spiritual credit held to be earned by performance of righteous acts and to ensure future benefits 3 a pl : the intrinsic nature of a legal case apart from considerations of circumstance, jurisdiction, or procedure 4 : individual significance or justification

**mer-it-er** vt (1526) : to be worthy of or entitled or liable to : EARN ~ vi 1 obs : to be entitled to reward or honor 2 : DESERVE

**mer-i-to-cracy** \mər-ē-tō-kra-sē\ n, pl -cies [merit + -o- + -cracy] (1958) 1 : a system in which the talented are chosen and moved ahead on the basis of their achievement 2 : leadership selected on the basis of intellectual criteria — *mer-i-to-crat-i-cy* \mər-ē-tō-kra-tik\ adj

**mer-i-to-crat** \mər-ē-tō-krat\ n (1960) chiefly Brit : a person who advances through a meritocratic system

**mer-i-to-rious** \mər-ē-tō-rē-əs, -tōr-\ adj (15c) : deserving of honor or esteem — *mer-i-to-riously* adv — *mer-i-to-rious-ness* n

**merit system** n (1879) : a system by which appointments and promotions in the civil service are based on competence rather than political favoritism

**merle** also **merl** \mərl(-ə)\ n [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *merulus*; akin to OE *ōslā* blackbird, OHG *amsla*] (15c) : BLACKBIRD 1a

**merle** n [origin unknown] (1905) : a bluish or reddish gray mixed with splotches of black that is the color of the coats of some dogs

**mer-lin** \mərl-ən\ n [ME *merlioun*, fr. AF *merlin*, fr. OF *esmerillon*, aug. of *esmeril*; of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *smirl* merlin] (14c) : a small compact Holarctic falcon (*Falco columbarius*) which has a broad dark terminal band on the tail and of which the upperparts are slate blue in males and dark brown in females — compare PIGEON HAWK 1

**Mer-lin** \mərl-ən\ n [ML *Merlinus*, fr. MW *Myrddin*] : a prophet and magician in Arthurian legend

**mer-lon** \mərl-ən\ n [F, fr. It *meralone*, aug. of *merlo* battlement, fr. ML *merulus*, fr. L *merle*] (ca. 1704) : any of the solid intervals between crenellations of a battlement — see BATTLEMENT illustration

**mer-lot** \mərlōt\ n, often cap [F] (ca. 1941) : a dry red wine made from a widely grown grape orig. used in the Bordeaux region of France for blending

**mer-maid** \mər-mād\ n [ME *mermayde*, fr. mere sea (fr. OE) + mayde maid — more at MARINE] (14c) : a fabled marine creature with the head and upper body of a woman and the tail of a fish

**mer-man** \mərn-ən\ n (1601) : a fabled marine creature with the head and upper body of a man and the tail of a fish

**mer-o-** comb form [ISV, fr. Gk. fr. *meros* part — more at MERIT] : part : partial (meroblastic)

**mer-o-blas-tic** \mər-ə-'blas-tik\ adj [ISV] (1870) : characterized by incomplete cleavage as a result of the presence of a mass of yolk material — compare HOLOBLASTIC — *mer-o-blas-ti-cal-ly* \-tē-kāl-ē\ adv

**mer-o-crine** \mər-ə-k्रēn\ adj [ISV, fr. *mero-* + Gk. *kri-nein* to separate — more at CERTAIN] (ca. 1905) : producing a secretion that is discharged without major damage to the secretory cells; also : produced by a merocrine gland

**mer-o-mor-phic** \mər-ə-'mor-fik\ adj (ca. 1890) : relating to or being a function of a complex variable that is analytic everywhere in a region except for singularities at each of which infinity is the limit and each of which is contained in a neighborhood where the function is analytic except for the singular point itself

**mer-o-my-o-sin** \mər-ə-'mi-ə-sən\ n (1952) : either of two structural subunits of myosin that are obtained esp. by tryptic digestion

**-merous** adj comb form [NL *-merus*, fr. Gk. *-merex*, fr. *meros* — more a MERIT] : having (such or so many) parts (dimerous)

**Mer-o-vin-gian** \mər-ə-'vin-jē-nē\ adj [F *merovingien*, fr. ML *Mercingi* Merovingians, fr. *Merovaeus* Merowig t458 Frankish founder of the dynasty] (ca. 1694) : of or relating to the first Frankish dynasty reigning from about AD 500 to 751 — *Merovingian* n

**mer-o-zo-ite** \mər-ə-'zō-īt\ n [ISV, fr. *mero-* + *zo-* + -ite] (1900) : sporozoan trophozoite produced by schizogony that is capable of initiating a new sexual or asexual cycle of development

**mer-ri-ment** \mər-ē-mənt\ n (1576) 1 : light-hearted gaiety or fun making : HILARITY 2 : a lively celebration or party : FESTIVITY

**mer-ry** \mər-ē\ adj *mer-ri-er*; -est [ME *mery*, fr. OE *myrga*, merging akin to OHG *murg* short — more at BRIEF] (bef. 12c) 1 archaic : giving pleasure : DELIGHTFUL 2 : full of gaiety or high spirits : MIRTHFUL

3 : marked by festivity or gaiety 4 : QUICK, BRISK (a ~ pace) — *mer-ri-ly* \mər-ə-lē\ adv — *mer-ri-ness* \mər-ē-nəs\ n

SYN MERRY, BLITHE, JOCOND, JOYFUL, JOLLY mean showing high spirits o lightheartedness. MERRY suggests cheerful, joyous, uninhibited enjoyment of frolic or festivity (as *merry group of revelers*). BLITHE suggest carefree, innocent, or even heedless gaiety (arrived late in his usual *blithe* way). JOCOND stresses elation and exhilaration of spirits (singing, dancing, and *jocund* feasting). JOYFUL suggests the stimulation o conviviality and good fellowship (dinner put them in a *joyful* mood). JOLLY suggests high spirits expressed in laughing, bantering, and jesting (our *jolly* hosts enlivened the party).

**mer-ry-an-drew** \mər-ē-an-(-drū\ n, often cap M&W [merry + an drew, proper name] (1673) : a person who clowns publicly

**mer-ry-go-round** \mər-ē-gō-rōnd\ n (1729) 1 : an amusement park ride with seats often in the form of animals (as horses) revolving about a fixed center 2 : a cycle of activity that is complex fast-paced, or difficult to break out of (the corporate ~)

**mer-ry-mak-er** \mər-ē-mā-kər\ n (1827) : REVELER

**mer-ry-mak-ing** \-māk'-ing\ n (1714) 1 : gay or festive activity : CONVIVIALITY 2 : a convivial occasion : FESTIVITY

**mer-ry-thought** \mər-ē-thōt\ n (1607) chiefly Brit : WISHBONE

**merry widow** n, often cap M&W [The Merry Widow, operetta (1905 by Franz Lehár] (1964) : a strapless corset or bustier usu. having garters attached

**Mer-thio-late** \mər-thē-lāt\ n trademark — used for thimerosal

**mes- or meso-** comb form [L, fr. Gk. *mesos* — more at MID] 1 : mid : in the middle (mesocarp) 2 : intermediate (as in size or type) (mesomorph) (meson)

**mes-a** \mās-ə\ n [Sp. lit., table, fr. L *mensa*] (1759) : an isolated relatively flat-topped natural elevation usu. more extensive than a butte and less extensive than a plateau; also : a broad terrace with an abrupt slope on one side

**mes-al-liance** \māz-əl-yāns, \māz-ə-'li-əns\ n, pl *mésalliance* \yāns(-sə), \li-ən(-sə)-səz\ [F, fr. *més- mis- + alliance*] (1782) : a marriage with a person of inferior social position

**mes-arch** \mē-zärk, 'mē-, -särk\ adj (1891) : having metaxylem developed both internal and external to the protoxylem

**mes-cal** \mē-skāl, māl-n [AmerSp *mescal*, *mescal*, fr. Nahuatl *mexcalli* mescal liquor] (1702) 1 : a small cactus (*Lophophora williamsii*) with rounded stems covered with jointed tubercles that are used as a stimulant and antispasmodic esp. among the Mexican Indians 2 a : a usu. colorless Mexican liquor distilled esp. from the central leaves of maguey plants b : a plant from which mescal is produced; esp : MAGUEY

**mescal button** n (1888) : one of the dried discord tops of the mescal

**Mes-ca-le-ro** \mēs-kā-'lerō\ n, pl *Mescalero* or *Mescaleros* [AmerSp, fr. *mecsal*, *mescal* maguey, mescal liquor] (1844) : a member of an Apache people of Texas and New Mexico

**mes-ca-line** \mēs-kā-lān, \lēn\ n (1896) : a hallucinatory crystalline alkaloid C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> that is the chief active principle in mescal buttons

**mesdames** pl of MADAM or of MADAME or of MRS.

**mesdemielles** pl of MADEMOISELLE

**me-seems** \mē-sēm\ vb impersonal, past *me-seemed* \-sēmd\ (15c) archaic : it seems to me

**me-sem-bri-an** \mēs-bē-ən\ adj [ME *mesembria* midday (fr. *mes-* + *hēmera* day) + *anthemon* flower, fr. *anthos* — more at ANTHOLOGY] (1753) : any of a genus (*Mesembryanthemum*) of chiefly southern African fleshy-leaved herbs or subshrubs of the carpetweed family

**mes-en-ceph-a-lon** \mēs-ēf-ə-lān, \mēz-, -z'n-, -sēn-, -z'n-\, \lēn\ n [NL (1846) : MIDBRAIN — *mes-en-ce-phal-ic* \-zen(-lē)s-ā-fālik, -z'n(-lē), -sen(-lē), -s'n(-lē)\ adj

**mes-en-chy-mal** \mēs-zē-ñē-kā-māl, -sem-\, -sēn-\, -ki-māl, \mē-, -s'n-\ adj [ISV] (1886) : of, resembling, or being mesenchyme

**mes-en-chyme** \mēs-zē-nē-kim, \mē-, -s'n-\ n [G *Mesenchyma*, fr. *mes-* + NL *-enchyma*] (1888) : loosely organized undifferentiated mostly mesodermal cells that give rise to such structures as connective tissues blood, lymphatics, bone, and cartilage

**mes-en-ter-on** \mēs-zē-nē-ter-ōn, \mē-, -sen-, -ron\ n, pl -tera \-tērā\ [NL] (1877) : the part of the alimentary canal that is developed from the archenteron and is lined with hypoblast

**mes-en-ter-y** \mēs-zē-nē-ter-ē, \mē-, -sēn-, -s'n-\, pl -ter-ies [ME *mesenteric*, fr. MF & ML *mesenterie*, fr. ML *mesenterion*, fr. Gk. fr. *mes-* + *enteron* intestine — more at INTER-] (15c) 1 a : one or more vertebrate membranes that consist of a double fold of the peritoneum and invest the intestines and their appendages and connect them with the dorsal wall of the abdominal cavity b : a fold of membrane comparable to a mesentery and supporting a viscous (as the heart) that is not a part of the digestive tract 2 : a support or partition in an invertebrate like the vertebrate mesentery — *mes-en-ter-ic* \mēs-zē-nē-ter-ik, \mē-, -s'n-\ adj

**mesh** \mēsh\ n [ME, prob. fr. MD *maesch*; akin to OHG *mæsch* mesh, Lith. *mazgas* knot] (14c) 1 : one of the openings between the threads or cords of a net; also : one of the similar spaces in a network — often used to designate screen size as the number of openings per

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erus, fr. Gk. *meros*, fr. *meros* — more at *parts* (*dimerous*)  
*-on* adj [Fr *mérovignien*, fr. ML *Mero-*us Merowig] 1458 Frankish founder of relating to the first Frankish dynasty 751 — *Merovingian*  
 ISV, fr. *mero* + *zo* + *-ite*] (1900) : a d by schizogony that is capable of initiation of development 1576 1 : lighthearted gaiety or fun-celebration or party: FESTIVITY  
 —est [ME *myrge*, fr. OE *myrga*, *merge*; or at BRIEF] (bef. 12c) 1 *archaic*: given full of gaiety or high spirits: MIRTHFUL 4 : QUICK, BRISK (a ~ pace) — *merness* \mer'-nəs\ n  
 JAL JOLLY man showing high spirits or sts cheerful, joyous, uninhibited enjoyment group of revelers). BLITZ suggests endless gaiety (arrived late in his usual lation and exhilaration of spirits (singing). JOVIAL suggests the stimulation of up (dinner put them in a jovial mood), ressed in laughing, bantering, and jesting party).  
 drū, n, often cap M&A [merry + An-  
 person who clowns publicly]  
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 in the form of animals (as horses) re-  
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\mē-zō-'li-on(t)s\ n, pl *mésalliances*  
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 tional position

k\ adj (1891) : having metaxylem de-  
 rial to the protoxylem  
 erSp *mezcal*, *mescal*, *quor*] (1702) 1 : a *zmsil* with rounded  
 roles that are used as sp. among the Mexi-  
 less Mexican liquor  
 leaves of maguey  
 mescal is produced;

of the dried discoid

n, pl *Mescalero* or  
 cal, *mescal* maguey,  
 ber of an Apache  
 o

n (1896) : a hallucinogen that is the  
 uttons  
 DAME or of MRS.

ELLE personal, past me-  
 it seems to me

zem-brē-'an(t)-tho-mom\ n [NL, irreg.  
 z- + *hemera* day] + *anthemion* flower,  
 v] (1753) : any of a genus (*Mesembry-*  
 African fleshy-leaved herbs or sub-

-fā-lān, \mē-, -zīn-, -sen-, -sīn-, -lān\ n  
 mes-en-cephal-ic \mē-zen(t)-sō-fā-līk,

al, -sep-, -me-zān-'ki-mal, \mē-, -sīn-\  
 or being mesenchyme

ie, -sīn-\ n [M *Mesenchym*, fr. *mes-* +  
 organized undifferentiated mostly mes-  
 such structures as connective tissues,  
 tilage

1, \mē-, -sen-, -ran\ n, pl *-tera* \tā-rā\  
 imetary canal that is developed from  
 hypoblast

1, \n, pl *-teries* [ME *mesenterie*, fr.  
 4L *mesenterion*, fr. Gk, fr. *mes-* +  
 -[15c] 1 a : one or more vertebrate

able fold of the peritoneum and investi-  
 ges and connect them with the dorsal  
 a fold of membrane comparable to a  
 cus (as the heart) that is not a part of  
 or partition in an invertebrate like the  
 ter-ic \mē-zān-'ter-ik, -sīn-\ adj

MD *maesche*; akin to OHG *masca*  
 1 : one of the openings between the  
 one of the similar spaces in a network  
 in size as the number of openings per

linear inch 2 a : the fabric of a net b : a woven, knit, or knotted material of open texture with evenly spaced holes c : an arrangement of interlocking metal links used esp. for jewelry 3 a : an interlocking or intertwining arrangement or construction: NETWORK b : WEB, SNARE — us. used in pl. 4 : working contact (as of the teeth of gears) (in ~) — meshed \mēsh\ adj

mesh-wi (ca. 1547) 1 a : to catch in the openings of a net b : EN-  
 MESH, ENTANGLE 2 : to cause to resemble network 3 a : to cause (as

gears) to engage b : to coordinate closely: INTERLOCK ~ vi 1 : to

become entangled in or as if in meshes 2 : to be in or come into mesh

— used esp. of gears 3 : to fit or work together properly: COORDI-  
 NATE

me-shuga or me-shug-ge also me-shugah or me-shug-gah \mō-'shū-  
 ga\ adj [Yiddish *meshuge*, fr. Heb *mashaggā*] (1892) : CRAZY, FOOLISH

me-shug-ge-nēr \-'shū-ga-nər\ n [Yiddish *meshugener*, fr. *meshuge*] (1900) : a foolish or crazy person

me-sh-wor-k \mēsh-wark\ n (1830) : NETWORK (a vascular ~)

me-si-al \mē-zē-əl, -sē-\ adj (1803) 1 : MIDDLE, MEDIAN 2 : of, relating to, or being the surface of a tooth that is next to the tooth in front of it or that is closest to the middle of the front of the jaw — compare

DISTAL 2 *me-si-al* \-sē-əl\ adv

mesic \mē-zik, 'mē-, -sik\ adj [*mes-* + *-ic*] (1926) : characterized by, relating to, or requiring a moderate amount of moisture (a ~ habitat) (a ~ plant) — compare HYDRIC, XERIC

mesic adj [meson + -ic] (1939) : of or relating to a meson

mes-merc-i \mēz-'mēr-ik\ also *mes-* \mēz\ adj (1829) 1 : of, relating to, or induced by mesmerism 2 : FASCINATING, IRRESISTIBLE — *mes-mer-i-*  
 call-y \-i-kō-lik\ adv

mes-mer-ise Brit var of MESMERIZE

mes-mer-ism \mēz-mō-, ri-zəm\ also *mes-* \mēz\ [F, A. *Mesmer*] (1784) 1

: hypnotic induction held to involve animal magnetism; broadly

HYPNOTISM 2 : hypnotic appeal — *mes-mer-ist* \-rist\ n

mes-mer-ize \mēz-'mēz\ vt -ized; -iz-ing (1829) 1 : to subject to mesmerism; also: HYPNOTIZE 2 : SPELLBIND, FASCINATE — *mes-mer-iz-er*

"mesne \mēn\ adj [AF, alter. of MF *meien* — more at MEAN] (1548)

INTERMEDIATE, INTERVENING — used in law

mesne lord \n (1614) : a feudal lord who holds land as tenant of a su-  
 perior (as a king) but who is lord to his own tenant

meso — see MES

me-so-car-p \mē-zō-kärp, 'mē-, -sō-\ n (1849) : the middle layer of a

pericarp — see ENDOCARP illustration

me-so-clone \mē-zō-sir-kōn, 'mē-, -sō-'sī-\ n (1975) : a rapidly

rotating air mass within a thunderstorm that often gives rise to a tornado

me-so-dorm \mē-zō-dōrm, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [ISV] (1873) : the middle of

the three primary germ layers of an embryo that is the source of many

body tissues and structures (as bone, muscle, connective tissue, and dermis); broadly: tissue derived from this germ layer — *me-so-der-*  
 mal \mē-zō-där-mäl, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj

me-so-glea or me-so-gloea \mē-zō-'glē-ə, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [NL, fr. *mes-* +  
 LGk *glōia*, *glue* — more at CLAY] (1866) : a gelatinous substance

between the endoderm and ectoderm of sponges or coelenterates

Mé-so-lith-ic \-'li-thik\ adj [ISV] (1866) : of, relating to, or being a

transitional period of the Stone Age between the Paleolithic and the Neolithic

me-so-mere \mē-zō-mir, 'mē-, -sō-\ n (ca. 1900) : a blastomere of

medium size; also: an intermediate part of the mesoderm

me-so-morph \mē-zō-mōrf, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [mesoderm + *-morph*] (1940)

: a mesomorphic body or person

me-so-mor-phic \mē-zō-mōr-fik, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj [mesoderm + *-morphic*]

: the predominance in such types of structures developed

from the mesoderm] (1940) 1 : of or relating to the component in W.

H. Sheldon's classification of body types that measures esp. the degree

of muscularity and bone development 2 : having a husky muscular

body build — *me-so-mor-phic* \mē-zō-mōr-fik, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj

me-son \mē-'zän, 'mā-, 'mē-, -sān\ n [ISV *mes-* + *-on*] (1939) : any of

a group of fundamental particles (as the pion and kaon) made up of a

quark and an antiquark that are subject to the strong force and have

zero or an integer number of quantum units of spin — *me-son-ic* \mē-

'zā-nik, 'mā-, 'mē-, -sā-\ adj

me-so-hep-ros \mē-zō-'hefrōs, 'mē-, -sō-\, -frō-\ n, pl *-nephroi*

\,frōi\ [NL, fr. *mes-* + Gk *nephros* kidney — more at NEPHRITIS]

(1887) : either member of the second and midmost of the three paired

vertebrate renal organs that functions in adult fishes and amphibians

but functions only in the embryo of reptiles, birds, and mammals in

which it is replaced by a metanephros in the adult — compare META-

NEPHROS, PRONEPHROS — *me-so-nephric* \-frik\ adj

me-so-pause \mē-zō-'pōz, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [mesosphere + pause] (1950)

: the upper boundary of the mesosphere where the temperature of the

atmosphere reaches its lowest point

me-so-pe-lag-ic \mē-zō-pā-'la-jik, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj (1947) : of or relating

to oceanic depths from about 600 feet to 3000 feet (200 to 1000 meters)

me-so-phyl \mē-zō-fil, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [NL *mésophyllum*, fr. *mes-* + Gk *phyllon* leaf — more at BLADE] (1839) : the parenchyma between the

epidermal layers of a foliage leaf — *me-so-phyllic* \mē-zō-fil-ik,

'mē-, -sō-\ or *me-so-phyl-lous* \-lōs\ adj

me-so-phytic \mē-zō-fit, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [ISV] (1899) : a plant that grows

under medium conditions of moisture — *me-so-phyl-ic* \mē-zō-fil-ik,

'mē-, -sō-\ adj

me-so-scale \mē-zō-skāl, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj (1956) : of intermediate size;

esp. of or relating to a meteorological phenomenon approximately 10

to 1000 kilometers in horizontal extent (~ cloud pattern)

me-so-some \mē-sōm\ n (1960) : an organelle of bacteria that appears as

an invagination of the plasma membrane and functions either in DNA

replication and cell division or excretion of exoenzymes

me-so-sphere \mē-sfir\ n (1950) : the part of the earth's atmosphere

between the stratosphere and the thermosphere in which temperature

decreases with altitude to the atmosphere's absolute minimum of about

-112°F (-80°C) — *me-so-spher-ic* \mē-zō-'sfir-ik, 'mē-, -sō-, -sfir-\ adj

me-so-the-li-o-ma \mē-zō-thē-'lē-ō-mā, mē-, -sō-, -lē-\ n [NL

ca. 1899] : a tumor denoted by the suffix *-oma* (as that lining the peritoneum)

me-so-the-li-um \-'thē-lē-ūm\ n, pl -lia \-lē-\ [NL, fr. *mes-* + *epithe-*  
 lium] (1886) : epithelium derived from mesoderm that lines the body cavity of vertebrate embryo and gives rise to epithelia (as of the peritoneum, pericardium, and pleurae), striated muscle, heart muscle, and several minor structures — *me-so-the-li-al* \-lē-\ adj

me-so-tho-rac-ic \-'thō-rā-sik\ adj (1839) : of or relating to the mesothorax

me-so-tho-rax \-'thōr-aks, \-'thōr-\ n [NL] (ca. 1826) : the middle of the three segments of the thorax of an insect — see INSECT illustration

me-so-tro-pic \mē-zō-'trō-pik, 'mē-, -sō-, -trō-pik\ adj (1940) of a body of water: having a moderate amount of dissolved nutrients — compare EUROTROPHIC, OLIGOTROPHIC

Me-so-zoic \-'zō-ik\ adj (1840) : of, relating to, or being an era of geological history comprising the interval between the Permian and the Tertiary or the corresponding system of rocks that was marked by the presence of dinosaurs, marine and flying reptiles, ammonites, ferns, and gymnosperms and the appearance of angiosperms, mammals, and birds — see GEOLOGIC TIME TABLE — Mesozoic

mes-quite \mē-'skēt, mē-\ n [AmérSp, fr. Nahualt *mizquitl*] (1759) : any of several spiny leguminous trees or shrubs (genus *Prosopis* and esp. *P. glandulosa*) chiefly of the southwestern U.S. that often form extensive thickets and have sweet pods eaten by livestock; also: the wood of the mesquite used esp. in grilling food

mess \mēs\ n [ME *mes*, fr. MF, fr. LL *missus* course at a meal, fr. *missus*, pp. of *mittere* to put, fr. L *missus* to send — more at SMITE] (14c) 1

: a quantity of food: a *archaic*: food set on a table at one time 2 b: a prepared dish of soft food; also: a mixture of ingredients cooked or eaten together c: enough food of a specified kind for a dish or a meal (picked a ~ of peas for dinner) 2 a: a group of persons who regularly take their meals together; also: a meal so taken b: a place where meals are regularly served to a group: MESS HALL 3 a: a disorderly, untidy, offensive, or unpleasant state or condition (your room is in a ~) b: one that is disordered, untidy, offensive, or unpleasant usu. because of blundering, laxity, or misconduct (the movie is a ~, as sloppy in concept as it is in execution — Judith Crist) (made a ~ of his life)

mess vi (14c) 1 : to provide with meals at a mess 2 a : to make dirty or untidy: DISARRANGE (warned not to ~ up your room) b: to mix up: BUNGLE (really ~ed up my life) 3 : to interfere with (magnetic storms that ~ up communications — Time) 4 : to rough up

: MANHANDLE (~ him up good so he won't double-cross us again) ~ vi 1 : to take meals with a mess 2 : to make a mess 3 a: PUTTER, TRIFLE (small boys and girls who like to ~ around with paints) b: to handle or play with something esp. carelessly (don't ~ with my camera) — often used with *around* c: to take an active interest in something or someone (~ing around with new video techniques); also: INTERFERE, MEDdle (~ing in other people's affairs) (you'd better not ~ with me) 4 : to become confused or make an error — usu. used with *up* (got another chance and didn't want to ~ up again)

mess-sage \mēs-'sāj\ n [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *missus*, pp. of *mittere*] (14c) 1 : a communication in writing, in speech, or by signals 2 : a messenger's errand or function 3 : an underlying theme or idea

message vb messaged; messag-ing vi (1583) 1 : to send as a message or by messenger 2 : to send a message to ~ vi : to communicate by message

mess-a-line \mēs-'a-lēn\ n [F] (ca. 1890) : a soft lightweight silk dress fabric with a satin weave

mess-an \mēs-'ān\ n [ScGael *measan*] (15c) chiefly Scot: LAPDOG 1

mess around vi (ca. 1932) 1 : to waste time: DAWDLE, IDLE 2 a: ASSOCIATE (don't mess around with admirals much — K. M. Dodson) b: FLIRT, PHILANDER (caught him *messing around* with my wife)

messeigneurs pl of MONSIEUR

mes-sen-ger \mē-sē-'n-jər\ n [ME *messangier*, fr. *mes-* message] (14c) 1 : one who bears a message or does an errand: a *arachic*: FORERUNNER, HERALD b: a dispatch bearer in government or military service c: an employee who carries messages 2 : a light line used in hauling a heavier line (as between ships) 3 : a substance (as a hormone) that mediates a biological effect 4: MESSENGER RNA

messeenger RNA n (1961) : an RNA produced by transcription that carries the code for a particular protein from the nuclear DNA to a ribosome in the cytoplasm and acts as a template for the formation of that protein — compare TRANSFER RNA

mess hall \n (1862) : a hall or building (as on an army post) in which mess is served

messi-ah \mā-'sē-ə-nā\ [Heb *māšiāh* & Aram: *mēshīhā*, lit., 'anointed'] 1 cap a: the expected king and deliverer of the Jews b: jesus 1 2 : a professed or accepted leader of some hope or cause — *mēsi-ah-ship* \-ship\ n

messi-an-ic \mēsē-'ā-nik\ adj [prob. fr. F *messianique*, fr. *messianisme*] (ca. 1834) 1 : of or relating to a messiah 2 : marked by idealism and an aggressive crusading spirit (a ~ sense of historic mission — Edmund Taylor)

messi-a-nism \mēsē-'ā-ni-zm; mā-'sē-ə-nā\ adj [prob. fr. messianisme, fr. messie messiah + -isme (as in christianisme Christianity)] (1876) 1 : belief in messiah as the savior of mankind 2 : religious devotion to an ideal or cause

Messias \mēsē-'ā-sās\ n [ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. Aram *mēshīhā*] : MESSIAH 1

messieurs pl of MONSIEUR

mess jacket n (1891) : a fitted waist-length man's jacket worn esp. as part of a dress uniform

mess kit n (ca. 1877) : a compact kit of nested cooking and eating utensils for use by soldiers and campers

mess-mate \mēsē-'māt\ n (1746) : a person with whom one regularly takes mess (as on a ship)

mess over vt (1965) slang: to treat harshly or unfairly: ABUSE

\about: \kitten; F table. \or further: \ash; \ace: \mop, mar

\out, labchin \bet \easy: \go \hit \ice. \job

\sing \law \boy \thin \the. \loot \foot

\vision \k, \n, \ce, \ee, \é, \see Guide to Pronunciation

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